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whom devoted the whole or a part of their commencement exercises to this subject. We have never had in any year so many requests for literature from students who wished assistance in preparing debates, orations, or graduating essays on this subject.

The league's semi-annual meeting was held in connection with the meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, as usual. This met in Richmond, Virginia, February 23-28, and the league gave its annual dinner on February 26 in the Jefferson Hotel. There were about seventy-five guests at this dinner, and addresses were made by United States Commissioner Claxton; Congressman William D. B. Ainey; President C. A. Duniway, of the University of Wyoming; President S. C. Mitchell, of the Medical College of Virginia. Superintendent Randall J. Condon, of Cincinnati, the president of the league, was toastmaster.

The league is now making preparations for its annual meeting, which will be held in connection with the annual convention of the National Education Association as usual. This will be held in St. Paul July 4-11, and the league will have headquarters in the St. Paul Hotel. Prof. R. M. Rarig, of the University of Minnesota, who is president of the Minnesota High School Debating League, is conducting an essay contest among the high schools of the State. This contest will close on June 15, and the essays will be submitted to a board of judges from the University of Minnesota. The four best essays will be selected for the orations at the league's annual public meeting on July 9 in St. Paul. These orations will be delivered by the writers, and the gold medal of the league will be presented by Commissioner Claxton to the one giving the best oration. Governor Eberhart, of Minnesota, has consented to be the presiding officer of this meeting, and the other speaker will be Mr. E. H. Scammell, organizing secretary of the Canadian Peace Centenary Association. The annual report of the executive committee will be read and the prizes awarded to the successful contestants in the Seabury Peace Prize Essay Contest. On the next afternoon the board of managers of the league will give their annual luncheon in the St. Paul Hotel.

We are pleased to announce that the "Course in Citizenship," prepared by a committee of the Massachusetts branch and published by Houghton-Mifflin Company, will be out the 1st of July. This promises to be a great contribution to educational literature.

The history committee of the league has held one meeting since our last report, on April 2-3, in New York, and will meet again June 1-2. It has outlined the contents of five books which it intends to publish, which will probably appear in 1916.

Our essay contest closed, as usual, on March 1, and ninety-three essays were received. Four countries are represented in this contest—England, Germany, Holland, and the United States. One normal school essay was received from England, two from Holland, and one secondary school essay from Germany. The rest, eighty-nine, were from this country, twenty-eight States being represented. Of this number there were twenty-one normal school essays and sixty-eight secondary. The league has also co-operated again this year in the Lindgren Essay Contest, open to all high-school students of this country, in supplying literature to each of these contestants.

Resolutions of the Protestant Episcopal Convention.

At the annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Chicago, held May 27, 1914, the following minute and resolution were passed:

"The Convention of the Diocese of Chicago desires to express its appreciation of the encomium of peace made by the Bishop in his annual address, and to affirm its devotion to the principle of Christian charity and good will whereby the brotherhood of man and the harmony of nations may be preserved.

"It would declare its belief that justice and happiness are more likely to be reached through mediation and arbitration, the appeal to reason and to the teaching of the Gospel of the Prince of Peace, than by means of war and its consequent horrors.

"It therefore welcomes with delight every effort to settle by kindly conciliation and wise diplomacy, rather than by force and cruelty, the disputes which arise, not only among the peoples of the earth, but also within the nation itself.

"In this spirit it trusts that justice and love will prevail alike among the disturbed citizens of Colorado and among the woe-driven and bewildered inhabitants of the Mexican Republic.

"And to the furtherance of this purpose the Convention pledges its sympathy, and offers its prayers.

"Resolved, That a copy of this minute be sent to the President of the United States, and to the Secretary of the American Peace Society."

Attest:

LUTHER PARDEE,

Secretary of Convention of the Diocese of Chicago.

In his address before the convention, Rt. Rev. Charles Palmerston Anderson, Bishop of Chicago, gave expression to his desire for action to be taken by the convention, and thus inspired the resolutions passed at a later session. He said in part:

"I cannot be unmindful of the fact that war clouds have been hovering over our heads, and that the war-dogs have been barking for blood. Just now there is a hopeful calm, though the sky is not clear as yet.

"I pray for Peace.

"I pray for Industrial Peace in Colorado; a Peace consistent with the ideals of a Christian Democracy.

"I pray for Peace between the United States and Mexico; a Peace consistent with high ideals of duty and responsibility.

"It might be well for this Convention to give some voice to the Christian conscience in the matter of war on this American Continent at this time and under existing circumstances and conditions.

"Some expression of this sort and from this body would help to uphold the hands of those upon whom far-reaching responsibilities have been placed, and who are trying to discharge them in the fear of God."

Ninety-eighth Annual Meeting of the Peace Society, London.

The Ninety-eighth Annual Meeting of the Peace Society, London, was held on May 19, with a morning session for members of the Society to transact business and a public meeting in the City of London Guildhall in the afternoon. The President of the Society, Rt. Hon. Joseph A. Pease, Minister for Education, presided, and in the course of his remarks said that he wished to emphasize three propositions which were brought out in the Annual Report of the Secretary, Dr. Darby. The statements were that war results in ever fresh war; that perpetual preparation for war generates a spirit which makes conflict easy; that war has a deleterious

effect upon human character. To these he added a fourth—that a system is self-condemned which requires among the so-called civilized nations an expenditure of £700,000,000 a year in connection with the preparation for war. Mr. Pease was warmly applauded when he referred to the fact that peace between Great Britain and Germany had never been broken, and that during his lifetime relations with Germany had never been more cordial than they were now. Dr. Clifford moved a resolution for closer co-operation between the religious and philanthropic workers of the world in endeavoring to establish the principles of justice and sympathy between nations. Mrs. Philip Snowden pleaded for the reduction of armaments and the introduction of proposals to this effect at the Third Hague Conference. Resolutions were also introduced by Rev. A. J. Waldron, and seconded by Mr. Frederick Maddison, recording the sorrow of the meeting at the conditions in the Near East and in Mexico. Mr. Waldron expressed his gratification that President Wilson was doing all he could to avert war in Mexico. Mr. Maddison said: "My strongest objection to war is not that it kills men, and wounds and maims them, which is still worse—it is not even that war is an economic waste, but it is that war gives you absolutely no guarantee of justice." Great satisfaction was expressed with the meetings, which were unusually well attended, and with the high tone of the addresses.

Correspondence.

Editor of THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

DEAR SIR: In the March issue of the current year of *THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE* there is an article entitled "A Plea for the Small Town," by Louis P. Lochner, which immediately attracted my attention, and concerning which I should like to add a thought.

We all will recognize at once the necessity of spreading the peace propaganda amongst the rural districts of our country if that propaganda is ever to become a power in the shaping of public opinion. The politician knows the importance of the farmer's opinion, and strives hard to gain it. The pacifist should do the same. Mr. Lochner brings out in his article one interesting solution that seems to be practical for the dissemination of peace views. But surely the burden of the work could be placed upon a more permanent resident of the community than the college student, and one who could exert his influence continually. I refer to the minister of the village church.

Our theological seminaries are each year sending out men into country parishes who have had a college training, as well as the graduate schools. They are men with the cosmopolitan spirit, and are easily won to the cause of international peace. Let these men carry their views with them into their first parishes and express them from the pulpit on all fitting occasions. But let them also express them in another way which will reach even a greater number of people.

To be specific: Why could not these men give a series of dramatic and poetical readings of literature that is especially along the lines of peace? Such dramas as Charles Rand Kennedy's "The Terrible Meek" and Katrina Trask's "In the Vanguard," and such poems as Alfred Noyes' "The Wine-press," offer fine oppor-

tunities for the kind of work I suggest. And I know from personal experience that the audiences that gather during the week in the small country churches for such occasions will listen with great interest to any dramatic reading. They are very appreciative of such efforts on the part of any one, even though he be limited in his talent, and especially so of their pastor.

Such a series of readings as is here outlined might be held some week-day evening for four or five successive weeks during the winter months, and then for the last meeting a speaker from one of the peace society's offices could be secured to give a lecture setting forth the propaganda, and any money that might be made could well be turned into the treasury of the American Peace Society, or perhaps it might prove more advisable to make them free.

I write this letter because I have had some little experience in seeing how well the reading of modern drama in the country churches has interested the people. And I believe that with a few words of introduction concerning the drama to be read for the evening such a series of readings would do much to spread the peace views.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM WESTON PATTON.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., May 12, 1914.

DEAR SIR: I have this afternoon opened the May *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, and wish to "celebrate," if I may use the Spanish idiom, the proposed erection of a Swedish-Norwegian peace monument to commemorate one hundred years of peace between Sweden and Norway. If the enlisting of public sentiment in favor of international peace is what is wanted, it seems to me highly desirable that this should receive the greatest possible notice. The Swedes and Norwegians have had national prejudice against each other, like the French and English. They have recently separated after their long period of having a common monarch, and I understand that the fortifications on the boundary line between them have been dismantled or destroyed. Why shouldn't Senator Root ask us all to take our hats off and be silent for five minutes or more in appreciation of this centenary, if we expect other nations to kneel down in admiration of the United States and Great Britain?

Yours sincerely,

FRED BROOKS.

BOSTON, May 13, 1914.

The letter which we reproduce below was recently received from the principal of a prominent girls' school in one of our Western States:

"I am principal of a girls' school, and as such I would like to condemn every text-book that is now in use on the subject of history. I have tried to have my history teachers omit all details of war, but the pupils will read them any way, and particularly if they are advised not to.

"I should like to ask why your society does not at once set to work to edit histories of all countries that are in school use, and absolutely omit every detail of a battle. The pages and pages that are occupied with descriptions of the countless battles of our Civil War could